

On the Green

A publication for Gallaudet University staff and faculty

August 4, 1997 Vol. 27, No. 15

Jordan asks Congress to remove cap on international student enrollment

By Mercy Coogan

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan asked Congress July 15 to remove the cap on the number of international students admitted to the University each year.

Dr. Jordan's request came during testimony in support of reauthorization of the University before the House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training, and Lifelong Learning. The subcommittee is a part of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

After providing subcommittee members with a brief history of Gallaudet and an update on the changes underway at Pre-College National Mission Programs, Dr. Jordan asked the subcommittee to support four important changes in

the federal regulations governing the University.

The first change is to remove the cap that was imposed by Congress on the University in 1992, limiting international student enrollment to about 10 percent of the annual overall enrollment.

"From my perspective ... the net result of the enrollment cap has been to deny or delay higher education to qualified deaf students from other countries," said Jordan, "while it has cost the University substantial income which could have helped to further reduce its dependence on federal appropriations. ... I seek your support for removing this obstacle to the higher education of members of the world deaf community. ..."

continued on page 3

Dr. Redding appointed CCE dean

Dr. Reginald Redding, former director of the Center for Student Resources at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf and the assistant vice president for student affairs at the Rochester Institute of Technology, has been appointed dean of the College for Continuing Education, effective August 4.

Redding also has faculty affiliation with the Department of Education as an associate professor in the School of Education and Human Services. At NTID he held a faculty appointment as assistant professor in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies.

Redding received a B.A. degree in American studies from Gallaudet in 1979, an M.A. degree in deaf education from Western Maryland College in 1982, an M.A. in educational administration and supervision from California State University in 1985, and a Ph.D. in special education administration from Gallaudet in 1995.



Dr. Reginald Redding

Other prominent positions that Redding has held include director of education/assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction at the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, director of educational support services/assistant superintendent at New York's Lexington School for the Deaf, and assistant principal for administration at MSSD.

Among his achievements at NTID, Redding provided leadership in establishing the Learning Consortium/Learning Center, which includes tutorial services, distance education, a 'smart classroom,' and a computer lab in collaboration with all seven centers of the school. His guidance was also instrumental in the implementation of NTID's strategic plan for the Center for Human Resources and to standing committees on student retention, non-traditional learning methodologies, and minority students.

Redding's service to the field of deaf education is recognized nationwide. He chairs the Council on Education of the Deaf's Committee on Professional Preparation and Certification and co-chairs the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf's Ethnic and Multicultural Concerns Committee.

"I am confident that Dr. Redding will do very well in facilitating, enhancing, and leading Gallaudet's outreach programs on behalf of our students and the global deaf community," said Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen. "Please join me in giving him a warm welcome back to Gallaudet University."



President I. King Jordan, who received CASE's 1997 James L. Fisher Award for Distinguished Service to Education, and Linda Jordan meet with James Lanier, Jr. (left), vice chancellor for institutional advancement at East Carolina University and CASE Annual Assembly chair, and Richard Riley, secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, following the award ceremony.

President Jordan receives CASE award for distinguished service to education

By Mike Kaika

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan was presented the 1997 James L. Fisher Award for Distinguished Service to Education by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) at the CASE Annual Assembly on Sunday, July 13, in Washington, D.C.

CASE recognized Dr. Jordan for his leadership in raising public awareness of the challenges faced by deaf and hard of hearing students and those with disabilities and in strengthening significantly the quality of their education. The award, which is named for James L. Fisher, CASE's second president, honors outstanding individuals who have made contributions to education of national or international significance.

"CASE is proud to recognize Dr. Jordan for the positive impact he has made on the lives of thousands of students—deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing alike," said CASE President Peter McE. Buchanan. "Jordan's efforts have successfully brought the needs of disabled students into the educational mainstream. His dedication, hard work, and ability to overcome adversity make him an ideal model for students, as well as for educators."

Jordan accepted the award on behalf of the entire Gallaudet community. He told the audience of about 500 advancement officers from scores of colleges and universities in this country and Canada that the award is especially important because it indicates the extent to which the higher education community welcomes and values the contributions of deaf and hard of hearing people.

"Since the Deaf President Now

protest in 1988 and the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act a year later, deaf and hard of hearing people have shown they can in fact do everything hearing people do, except hear," Jordan said. "And today, more and more hearing people realize this as well."

Jordan was accompanied to the awards ceremony by a Gallaudet contingent that included his wife Linda Jordan, current Board of Trustees Chair Glen Anderson, former Chair Philip Bravin, Student Body Government President David Kurs, and a number of faculty and staff.

Gallaudet assists NorTel with TTY access to voice mail

Gallaudet has begun a project with Northern Telecom (NorTel) to help the communications giant develop and evaluate a method of TTY access to voice mail.

NorTel is the second largest manufacturer of private telephone systems (called PBXs), and Gallaudet's PBX is a NorTel product. Because the voice mail product, Meridian Mail, has not been accessible to TTYs, Gallaudet has never implemented voice mail on campus.

Gallaudet's work on the project is being led by Dr. Judith Harkins, director of the Technology Assessment Program, Norman Williams, applications programmer I in TAP, and Lloyd Ballinger, manager of Networks and Communications.

NorTel has donated \$40,000 for research as well as equipment and software valued at approximately \$100,000. NorTel has also hired two Gallaudet interns majoring in Com-

continued on page 3

Continuing education gains recognition

By Mike Kaika

The International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) has recognized Gallaudet University as a Certified Provider of Continuing Education and Training.

In a letter to Gallaudet President I. King Jordan, Dr. Richard House, president of IACET, said, "Certified Provider is the highest level of recognition in IACET and demonstrates to others in continuing education and training that Gallaudet University has taken seriously its commitment to quality in its continuing education programs."

Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen, in a letter to Jackie Mann, coordinator of the Office of Extension Programs, a unit of the College for Continuing Education, said that the IACET certification, "will signify the quality of Gallaudet's courses and programs in professional studies and enhance Gallaudet's impact on the field. I am delighted and impressed with the professionalism and dedication that Extension Programs has

exhibited in bringing this unit the recognition it deserves."

The University will be recognized as a new certified provider by IACET at its annual conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., this September. Dr. Juanita Cebe, program development specialist for the Office of Extension Programs, will attend the conference. She will also receive training to become an on-site evaluator for other programs and institutions applying for certified provider status.

Gallaudet's College for Continuing Education (CCE) offers educational opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing people, service providers, families, and professionals serving them through programs, training, workshops, consultation, graduate courses, and other services nationally and internationally. In addition to the Office of Extension Programs, CCE consists of Summer Programs, Sign Language and Professional Studies, Center on Global Education, University Conference Management, and five Gallaudet University Regional Centers.

Among Ourselves

Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen and Sign Language and Professional Studies Coordinator Charlene Laba represented Gallaudet at the International Conference on Adult Education July 13-18 in Hamburg, Germany. The conference was sponsored by the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. The purpose of the event was to develop a declaration of rights for adult education world-wide and to set an agenda to see that this intent is achieved. Gallaudet's goal was to advocate for the ICAE to include in its declaration that adult education programs be sensitive to linguistic and cultural diversity, include bilingual education, involve people with disabilities in the planning and organizing of such programs, and that deaf people need visual orientation and sign language.

Dr. Kay Oman, Dr. Julie Bertak, and Dr. Deborah Krichbaum, faculty members in the Department of Family and Consumer Studies, attended the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences' 88th Annual Meeting and Exposition June 21-25 in Washington, D.C. Participants focused on professional and leadership development and gained insights on how to address issues facing families and the profession at the local, state, national, and international levels.

University Librarian John Day has been named president-elect of the Association for Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies, a division of the American Library Association. The ASCLA is responsible for all library cooperative networks, state libraries, and specialized library agencies, such as those providing services to people who are deaf and people who are blind. Day is serving this year as ASCLA's vice president; he will assume the presidency at the ALA conference in June 1998.

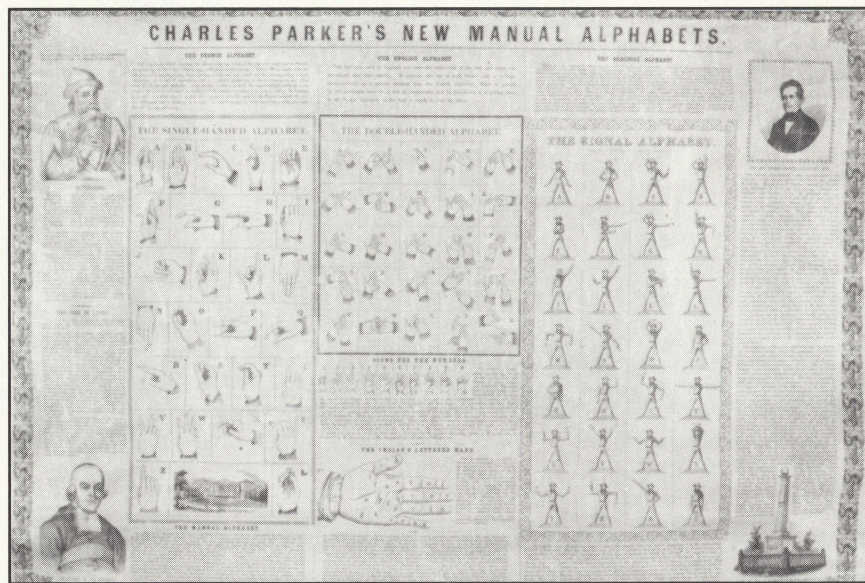
Dr. Susan Mather, an assistant professor in the Department of

American Sign Language, Linguistics, and Interpretation, and Cathryn Carroll, an editor with Pre-College National Mission Programs, have three books that have been published by DawnSignPress. *Movers & Shakers: Deaf People that Changed the World*, recounts the lives of 26 deaf individuals who made a difference in their own times and the world today. *A Student Bilingual Workbook and Teacher's Guide*, focusing not only on the stories' content but on different possibilities in translation between English and ASL, accompany the storybook.

Sue Russell, administrative assistant in the President's Office, received the distinguished service award from Children of Deaf Adults (CODA) at its international conference in Denver, Colo., July 10-13. The award is given to individuals who have made significant contributions to the CODA organization. Russell has acted on several committees over the last 11 years, and she has been a key player in the Washington, D.C., area group, coordinating conferences and planning retreats.

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan was a featured speaker at the Council on Foundations' annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, May 6. During a debate, "Disability Culture: A New Cultural Paradigm?" in which noted researchers and advocates presented two opposing views: one embracing the paradigm of the disability community as a distinct cultural group, the other holding that the disability community is not a culture. Dr. Jordan contributed to the issue of deaf culture, presenting his experiences and opinions as they relate to people who are deaf and hard of hearing and to the disability community as a whole. On the same day, Jordan also attended the Disability Funders Network reception as an honored guest. As a follow-up, the Council on Foundations' Subcommittee on Inclusion met at the Gallaudet University Kellogg

continued on page 4



This 19th century wall scroll of manual alphabets, drawn by deaf artist Charles Parker, was recently donated to Gallaudet. It is housed in the University Archives.

Historical items donated to Gallaudet

A rolled wall scroll with intricate drawings of international manual alphabets practiced in the 19th century has been donated to Gallaudet.

The 3-foot by 3-foot scroll, entitled "Charles Parker's New Manual Alphabets," was drawn by Parker, a deaf farmer and part-time illustrator, in 1856. It was donated to the University by Douglas Harvey under the conditions set forth in the will of his wife, Dorothy Dresser Harvey, who died in 1995.

A second item of Mrs. Harvey's that was donated along with the scroll is a book, *The Wright Oral School: A Sketch*, by Harriet U. Andrews, published in 1919. Both items are housed in the University Archives.

The gifts came to the University through Henry Buzzard, a part-time archivist at the New York School for the Deaf and a friend of the Harveys.

The scroll depicts detailed drawings of hand shapes forming the French alphabet, the English or two-handed alphabet, and the signal alphabet—also known as the Brachial alphabet. Another diagram, named "The Indian's Lettered Hand," shows a tactile alphabet system with letters corresponding to digits of the fingers and areas of the palm. According to the corresponding text, the hand is "intended to exemplify a means of communicating in the dark."

In the corners of the scroll are engravings of John Gutenberg, credited as the inventor of the printing press; the Abbé de L'Épée, the famous French educator of deaf people; the Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, the founder and first principal of the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Conn.; and a monument to Gallaudet on the ASD campus.

Gallaudet President I. King Jordan, in a letter to Buzzard thanking him for seeing that Mrs. Harvey's gifts were sent to the University, called the scroll and the book, "an extremely valuable part of the history of the education of people who are deaf and hard of hearing and will be a treasured part of our Archives." Dr. Jordan also sent a letter of thanks to Mr. Harvey.

Brief information about Parker can be found in annual reports of the American Asylum—now the ASD—and from copies of marriage records done by Edward Allen Fay for his book, *Marriages of the Deaf in America* that are housed in the Gallaudet Archives. According to these documents, Parker became deaf from

scarlet fever at 10 months. He was sent to school at the American Asylum and graduated in 1846. Ten years later he married a deaf woman, Ellen Wright, in a ceremony performed by Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, son of the Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and, like his father, an Episcopalian minister.

A number of items related to deaf education that were in Mrs. Harvey's personal collection have also been donated to Gallaudet.

Earlier gifts include two 19th century sign language charts, printed on linen. There is also a child's 19th century tea cup and saucer with the English sign language alphabet bordering the cup and a painting of two formally dressed cats greeting each other on the saucer. A China plate made in London in the early 1900s bearing the painting of a boy and girl confronted by a large goose in a farmyard, and the English sign language alphabet around its periphery also came to the University from Mrs. Harvey's collection.

Neither Mrs. Harvey, who was deaf, or her husband, who is hard of hearing, ever attended Gallaudet. Mrs. Harvey, however, knew of Gallaudet's reputation and wanted to make part of her collection available to the University.



On the Green

Published biweekly for the staff and faculty of Gallaudet University by the Office of Public Relations.

Editor

Todd Byrd

Photography

Chun Louie

Typesetting

Thomas Corcoran

G Gallaudet University is an equal opportunity employer/educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, hearing status, disability, covered veteran status, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income, place of business or residence, pregnancy, childbirth, or any other unlawful basis.

Core Alcohol/Drug Survey summarized

By Jennifer Joseph

(Editor's note: The following article is a summary of the findings of the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey that was presented by Jennifer Joseph, Gallaudet's coordinator of Health and Wellness Programs, in May to the Academic Affairs Management Team and to the University's Board of Trustees. The survey, which guaranteed respondents' anonymity, was conducted last January as a follow-up to an initial assessment of students' alcohol and other drug use and their related experiences and perceptions of the campus environment. A total of 501 students completed the survey.)

The survey found that 40 percent of Gallaudet students either don't drink or seldom drink; 48 percent report that they would prefer not to have alcohol available at parties; and 67 percent report never having used marijuana. Forty-eight percent of the survey respondents indicated that they would like to live in an alcohol and drug-free residence hall if it were available. Programming efforts will continue to focus on these often overlooked students by helping to support them with alcohol-free activities and to reinforce their positive choices in other ways.

The survey also shows a heightened awareness of Gallaudet's efforts to educate students about alcohol and other drugs. There was an increase from 1995 to 1997 in the percentage of students who were aware that alcohol and other drug prevention programs are offered by the University. The number of students who feel that Gallaudet is concerned about the prevention of alcohol and other drug use also increased during this time period.

A key finding of the survey is that Gallaudet students' alcohol use is on par or less than the national reference group. However, it appears that Gallaudet students also exhibit slightly higher rates of binge drinking (defined as five or more drinks in one sitting during the past two weeks), and more students answered affirmatively to questions that indicate problem drinking.

Other findings show that marijuana and cocaine use is comparable to other schools in the Mid-Atlantic region. This is probably a regional and urban phenomenon related to ease of access to these drugs.

Another interesting fact revealed in the survey is the number of students who overestimate the degree to which the "average" student uses alcohol or other drugs. For example, 73 percent thought the average student uses alcohol three or more times a week, but in reality, only 15 percent of students do. And for marijuana use, 58 percent of the survey respondents thought that the average student uses the drug three or more times a week, whereas only 12 percent actually do.

Because perceptions of what is "normal" are influential in determining students' alcohol and other drug use, correcting these misconceptions is a key focus for future prevention programs.

To address alcohol and other drug use, and related problems such as attempted suicide, sexual assault, and the negative impact these substances can have on academic performance, the University has a number of programs in place that were initiated in 1995 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Im-

provement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE) Program. The overall alcohol and other drug prevention effort at the University under this grant is known as "New Directions." Although funding from the Department of Education has since been exhausted, the University has made significant efforts to ensure that successful components of the overall alcohol and other drug prevention program continue. Some highlights of these programs follow:

- **Project REACH (Recognized, Empathetic, and Concerned Helpers)**—This initiative provides training for individuals identified by students as people they would be most likely to go to with a personal problem. Two trainings were held for faculty, staff, and students, another session was held for administrators, and a fourth for faculty. The training featured information about alcohol and other drug use and abuse among college students, how to recognize problems and refer students to appropriate campus and community resources.

- **Friday Night Theater Cafe**—To increase opportunities for Gallaudet students to view captioned movies—and to provide entertainment in an atmosphere free of alcohol and other drugs—grant funds permitted the Campus Activities Office to establish a movie theater that shows captioned films on the weekends. Admission is free and refreshments are available. Overall, "Movie Nights" are an overwhelming success with most films playing to a full house of students.

- **Innovative Teachers**—The incorporation of alcohol and other drug and wellness-related information into the academic curriculum is viewed at Gallaudet as an excellent way of enlightening both faculty and students who might not otherwise be exposed to alcohol and other drug prevention programming. Faculty members chosen to participate in the Innovative Teachers program received financial support and technical assistance to incorporate this information into their course outlines. The program was active for three semesters, and the response from students and faculty was positive overall.

- **Peer Education**—For the past three years, Gallaudet has had a peer health advocate (PHA) program to educate the entire student population about a broad range of health issues. Additional efforts over the past two years have allowed the PHAs to focus more on alcohol and other drug prevention issues. Aside from providing workshops through New Student Orientation and First Year Student programs, the PHAs support and educate students in other ways. For example, they send small gifts, "mocktail" recipe booklets, and a birthday card encouraging a safe celebration to each student on his or her 21st birthday.

- **Community Service**—Providing volunteer opportunities off campus for students to improve the lives of others is an important way to prepare them for future employment, alleviate the boredom that students often report, and allow them to bond without relying on alcohol or other drugs. The Center for Career Programs initially took primary responsibility for developing volunteer opportunities. The program was moved to the Campus Activities Office in 1996, and it is now supported by a grant from the Clarke Winchloe Foundation.



Photo by Cathy Carroll

KDES teacher Rita LaPorta congratulates students Joshua Wray (center) and Clint Zarembka, who display their winning posters.

KDES students win awards in contest

By Cathy Carroll

KDES students Christine Grimes, 14, Yannick Johnson, 14, and Joshua Wray, 12, received first place awards in a poster essay contest, sponsored by the Metropolitan Committee for Hearing and Speech Health. The contest carried the theme, "Communication: Our Future Depends on It."

Two other KDES students were also recognized for their talents in the contest. Dina Toulon, 13, won a third place award, and Clint Zarembka, 12, received an honorable mention. The five winners were among hundreds of students who competed in the contest.

Christine wrote an essay in praise

of the new technology that enables deaf people to communicate with anyone around the world; the other students produced posters.

"We talked about communication in general, how it can be everything from face and body expression, to speech, to entire computer systems," said Rita LaPorta, a speech/language therapist at KDES who helped coordinate the students' participation in the contest. "When it came time to write or draw, the students saw themselves with computers," she said. "They focused on e-mail and the World Wide Web. It is clear that they see this as an important key to communication."

Dr. Jordan testifies for reauthorization

continued from page 1

Jordan also asked the subcommittee to help the University obtain greater flexibility in investing and matching federal endowment funds; obtain an exemption from restrictions on re-employing annuitants (i.e., retired employees who return to work at Gallaudet on a part-time basis); and strengthen the language concerning the University's private status.

Following his testimony, the subcommittee questioned Jordan, as

well as Dr. James DeCaro, former president of NTID, who testified on behalf of the school for current president Robert Davila, who was ill, and Nancy Bloch, executive director of the National Association of the Deaf, who testified in support of both Gallaudet and NTID.

(Note: In the coming weeks and months, President Jordan and others at Gallaudet will work with House and Senate staff on these issues and try to resolve them favorably for the University. Watch for periodic updates on the University's reauthorization process in On the Green. To read the full text of President Jordan's July 15 testimony, go to the University's homepage and look under "What's New.")

Personnel Notes

Service awards for June

Five years:

Stephanie Dickens, Telecommunications Services; Barbara Gray, PCNMP resource teacher; Ying Yu, Library

Ten years:

Rita LaPorta, KDES, Office of the Assistant Director; Arthur Lee, Accounting; George Roundtree, Safety and Security; Leon Simpson, Grounds Services; Charlotte Tuckson, Education; Peter Un, Computer System Engineering

Fifteen years:

Dr. Francis Duffy, Administration and Supervision; Priscilla O'Donnell, Bookstore

Twenty years:

John Dunn, Construction Services; Rebecca Hogan, School of Arts and Sciences; Martin Noretzky, Television, Film, and Educational Technology; Deborah Van Cleve, Gallaudet Interpreting Services

New employees hired in June:

Jacqueline Campbell, Transportation; Catherine Martin-Davis, KDES, Family Education; Gene Tsygan, Television, Film, and Educational Technology; Daisy Wooten, KDES, Family Education

TTY accessible voice mail tested

continued from page 1

munication Arts to work on the project this summer. Michael Dorsey and Joshua Sharpton are employed at the project team site in Richardson, Texas.

The prototype system will employ a forward-looking approach that takes advantage of network communications outside the PBX. Testing of the system is scheduled to begin in August or September, with several Gallaudet departments participating.

Gallaudet's collaboration with NorTel on the project does not, however, mean that the entire campus will be served by TTY accessible voice mail. "Although NorTel's gift is generous, the equipment is sized for the research project, not for serving the entire campus," said Harkins. "If NorTel's product meets our needs, then purchasing a full system will be duly considered by the University administration."

Among Ourselves

continued from page 2
Conference Center in July for its semi-annual meeting.

Joyce McPherson, administrative secretary in the Academic Advising/Career Center and a member of the Capital Chapter of Professional Secretaries International, was elected president of the Delaware-Maryland-District of Columbia Division of PSI for the 1997-98 term at the division's 43rd Annual Meeting May 15-18.

Dr. Thomas Jones, a professor in the Department of Education, won the 1997 National Genealogical Society Award for Excellence at the society's conference in Valley Forge, Pa., May 9. Jones won the award for his article, "A Name Switch and Double Doses of Joneses: Weighing Evidence to Identify Charles R. Jones," which was judged as the best article in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* in 1996.

Gallaudet students Heidi Ramborger and Valdiez Robinson were among the award winners at the judging of a photography show by Gallaudet and American University students sponsored by the Arts Club of Washington. Ramborger won a \$750 second place prize for her photograph, "Full of Love"; Robinson won

a \$250 honorable mention for his entry, "Sean's Portraits." The show was on display through June at the M&M Gallery, 2017 I. St., N.W.

Several members of the Gallaudet community were recognized at the ADARA national conference in Milwaukee, Wis., May 20-24. ADARA is an organization of professionals networking for the excellence in service delivery with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. President I. King Jordan delivered the keynote address; SEHS Dean William McCrone received ADARA's highest award, the Boyce R. Williams Award, for his service to the organization and his career leadership in improving rehabilitation services for deaf and hard of hearing people; the "Bell Ringer" award for best conference presentation went to Dr. Irene Leigh, a professor in the Psychology Department, and Dr. Alan Marcus, director of community services in the Mental Health Center at Gallaudet University, for their presentation, "Deaf/Hearing Cultural Identity Paradigms"; Gallaudet University/Flagler College Regional Director Steve Larew was noted for completing his term as ADARA President; and Gallaudet University/Ohlone College Regional Director Michele Berke was named the new ADARA president.

Lecture addresses French deaf artists

Nicholas Mirzoeff, a professor of art history at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, presented a lecture to a Gallaudet audience about his research on deaf artists in 19th century France at a well-attended spring semester lecture in the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center.

Mirzoeff is the author of several books on art history, including *Silent Poetry: Deafness, Sign, and Visual Culture in Modern France*, one of only a few books dealing with the history of deaf people in France. Mirzoeff's interest in the subject began when he stumbled upon an exhibition of the work of deaf painters that was part of a celebration of the 1989 Bicentennial of the French Revolution. He began to research these deaf artists and their work. What he expected to be only an article grew into a book.

Deaf artists in France developed their own version of "modernism" in the 19th century that was separate from the better-known movements of Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, and Abstraction, said Mirzoeff. These styles were associated with marginality, even insanity, by society. Deaf artists were reluctant to become associated with them because they were already marginalized by their deafness. Instead, French deaf artists avoided painting and developed their own forms of modernism, particularly in the media of sculpture, graphic arts, and photography. Their work was based on training provided by the Institute for the Deaf in Paris.

Mirzoeff spoke about several important deaf artists, including sculptors Félix Martin and Paul Choppin, and the lithographers Auguste Colas and René Hirsch, and he showed several slides of their work. One important example was a statue of the Abbé de l'Épée by Martin, which depicts Épée teach-

ing a boy to fingerspell.

Another example was Choppin's statue of scientist Paul Broca, which won an important competition. Choppin chose to keep his deafness a secret from the judges, said Mirzoeff. The artist explained, "If it had been learned that I am deaf, there would have been an outcry... No one would be willing to believe that I could have as much talent as those who hear and speak."

Mirzoeff also discussed the photographic work of Bruno Braquehais and showed examples of his important work, *Paris during the Commune*, a path-breaking book that documented the events of the uprising known as the Paris Commune of 1871.

Splits within the community of deaf artists were also addressed by Mirzoeff. A particularly bitter schism occurred during the Dreyfus Affair of 1898-99. This incident, in which a Jewish army officer was falsely accused of spying for Germany, deeply divided France between Dreyfus's attackers (including the army, the Church, and the right) and those who defended him—Republicans, leftists, and liberals.

Mirzoeff said that oralists in the deaf community used this case to proclaim their loyalty to France and their place as French citizens by attacking Dreyfus and the deaf people who supported him, particularly the urban elites. Thus, the Dreyfus Affair promoted a split between the signing, urban deaf community connected with the Institute for the Deaf and the oralists in the countryside.

Mirzoeff's presentation was sponsored by Vice President for Academic Affairs Roslyn Rosen, College of Arts and Sciences Dean Jane Dillehay, and the Departments of History and Government, Art, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and the Gallaudet University Press.



Gerald Daly, associate professor in Mathematics and Computer Science, receives a plaque commemorating his 32 years of service to Gallaudet at his May 13 retirement reception. With him are (from left) VPAA Roslyn Rosen, Professor Edward Beasley, CAS Dean Jane Dillehay, Professor Rosalie Robinette, President I. King Jordan, Kay Lam of the Gallaudet Research Institute, and Professor Fat Lam.

'Building Bridges' breaks new ground

By Roz Prickett

The "Building Bridges" conference, held at the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center May 1 to 3, was truly a landmark event. For the first time in history, deaf parents, hearing adults from deaf families, and public and private school administrators, teachers, and counselors met to discuss hearing children from deaf families in the school system.

Gallaudet's College for Continuing Education, Mental Health Center, and School of Education and Human Services co-sponsored the event with Children of Deaf Adults, Inc. (CODA), an organization for adult hearing children who have deaf parents.

The opening keynote address was given by Dr. Paul Preston, an associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, and manager of the National Research and Training Center on Families of Adults with Disabilities in Berkeley, Calif. In addition to his professional credentials, Preston is also a member of CODA.

Preston said the conference initially made him nervous, as if the reason for having the conference implied that deaf parents were somehow deficient as parents. "Let's not be naive," he said. "Many people still see us as broken people who can produce only broken children. But they're wrong."

Preston interviewed hundreds of CODAs and deaf parents for his book, *Mother Father Deaf*, and other studies. His research shows that many CODAs and deaf parents don't recognize how important the deaf world and the hearing world are to the children of deaf parents. "One deaf parent told me, 'I know that sound is important for them, but I just never thought that Deaf was important too,'" he said.

It is only when CODAs first start school that many of them realize that their families are different from other families. For some this is an easy transition to make and for others it isn't. The key, he said, is to respect the differences in the hearing and deaf cultures, acknowledge that they occasionally collide with each other, and to continue open communication to work out the differences.

Mary Weiner, an assistant professor in Gallaudet's Department of Psychology and a doctoral candidate at the University of Maryland, College Park, gave the keynote address on

May 3. Her speech was entitled "How Can We—As a Community—Help Deaf Families with Hearing Children?"

Weiner agrees with Preston that communication is crucial. She said that one important way to improve communication is to use qualified interpreters. Weiner contends that much of the miscommunication between schools and parents in parent-teacher meetings is due to unqualified interpreters.

"Deaf parents need to feel respected, wanted, and accepted by their children's schools," she said. "Schools mistakenly assume that deaf parents are uneducated or are not interested in their children's education."

Weiner outlined steps that she feels school boards must take to remedy the situation. They include hiring qualified individuals to evaluate interpreters, determining the needs of deaf parents, and training both schools and families to work together better. Additionally, she advocates that a non-profit organization be established to work with deaf parents and the hearing community. Such a center, she believes, will promote acceptance of the deaf-parented hearing children's bicultural and bilingual identities, teach hearing people how to sign, and form family exchange or camp programs.

In addition to the two keynote addresses, the conference also allowed conference attendees to discuss issues through concurrent sessions and panel discussions. The conference was capped off by an emotional one-woman theatrical performance by Sherry Hicks, an interpreter, CODA, and performer, at the Elstad Auditorium.

At the conclusion of the conference, many people expressed surprise that the groups hadn't met and discussed these issues before. Parents and educators vowed to keep the lines of communication open and work toward bridging the differences between deaf and hearing, and home and school. Many said they hoped that the Building Bridges conference becomes an annual event.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Vineyards condo in Silver Spring off Rt. 29 and near I-95, contemp. style, 3-BR, 2-BA, fireplace, W/D, deck, and storage. E-mail LCSTAMPER or call (301) 890-2435 (TTY) eves.